

# Report to the Auburn City Council

Action Item
Agenda Item No
City Marager's Approval

To:

Mayor and City Council Members

From:

Wilfred Wong, Community Development Director

Date:

March 12, 2012

Subject:

School Park Preserve Community Garden

### The Issue

Should the City Council approve the School Park Community Garden plans and details as proposed by the School Park Community Garden Group?

### Conclusions and Recommendation

The Auburn Community Development Department recommends that the City Council take the following action:

A. By Motion, approve the School Park Community Garden plans and details per the Exhibits in the staff report.

### Background/Analysis

A community garden was envisioned in the northeast area of the School Park Preserve (see Attachment 1 for location). Work has been completed for the outlook, pavilion, shed, compost area and walkways. The next step will include raised planter beds, picnic benches, irrigation, gate, fencing, driveway and paths.

The School Park Community Garden Group, which consists of Placer Land Trust, Placer High School Environmental Club, Placer High School teachers (special education, agriculture science, welding, woodshop, principal), Bob Gilliom and Janice Forbes, have developed a plot plan for the garden (Exhibit A), entrance design (Exhibit B), perimeter fencing (Exhibit C), and raised planter beds (Exhibit D).

Placer High School is proposing to have the students construct the garden beds; erect a 5 foot horse wire fence with metal posts with corner wood post; picnic benches; compose bins; a gate and acknowledgment board. The Kids in Action Healthy Choices program hopes to teach youth how to grow healthy food and prepare healthy foods. This is part of a broader federal and state program designed to teach youth and in turn teach families about healthy food choices. Placer High School is teaming up with Placer Land Trust, the land conservator steward for the School

Park Preserve, to bring Placer Grown elements to this educational program. Placer Land Trust has created a specific fund, the Auburn School Park Preserve School Park Garden Construction Project fund, for the service groups to contribute materials, labor and funding to support the project.

Following is a description of the proposed activities:

- 1. Raised beds will be constructed by Placer High School woodshop classes.
- 2. Drip irrigation installed using the existing electrical and water access at the site.
- 3. The center raised beds will be phased in at a later date and potentially the number reduced.
- 4. The proposed gate and 5 foot fencing (horse wire fencing) to keep out deer will be constructed with metal stakes and corner wood posts.
- 5. The gate and acknowledgement board per the entry proposal sketch will be constructed by the Placer High School woodshop class.
- 6. The service clubs are assisting with funding and construction oversight.
- 7. The paths and driveway will be decomposed granite;

## Alternatives Available to Council; Implications of Alternatives

- 1. Approve the proposed School Park Community Garden plans; work can proceed.
- 2. Deny the proposed School Park Community Garden plans; revised plans will need to be submitted.

# Fiscal Impacts

No impact to the City's General Fund is anticipated. Design work was completed by the School Park Community Garden Group, a fundraising effort will begin and work on the garden will be done by volunteers

# Additional Information

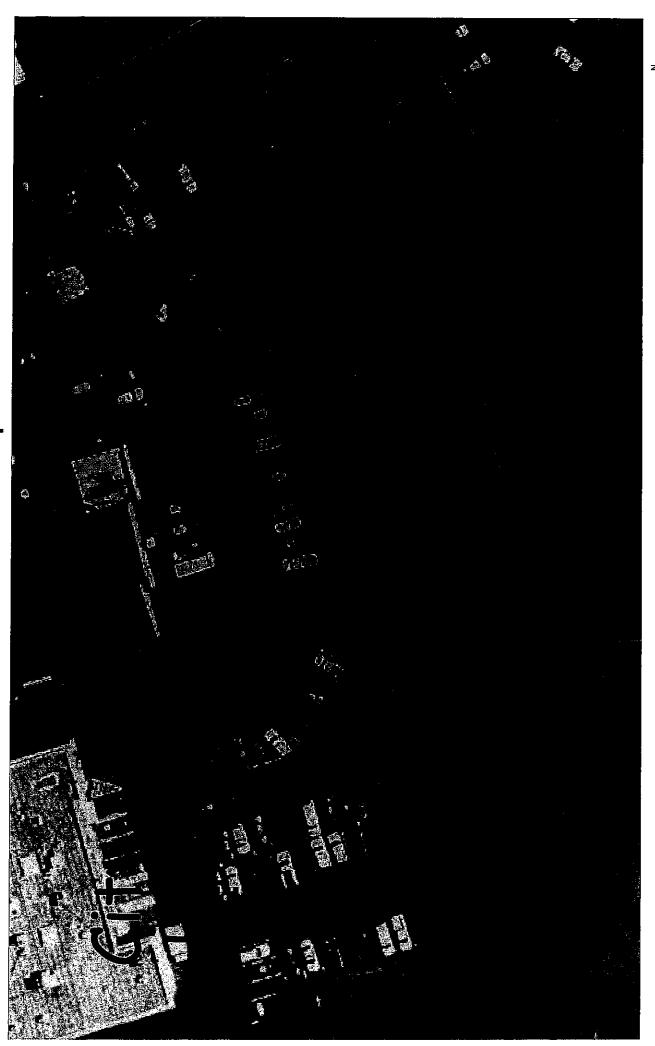
Please see the following for more details:

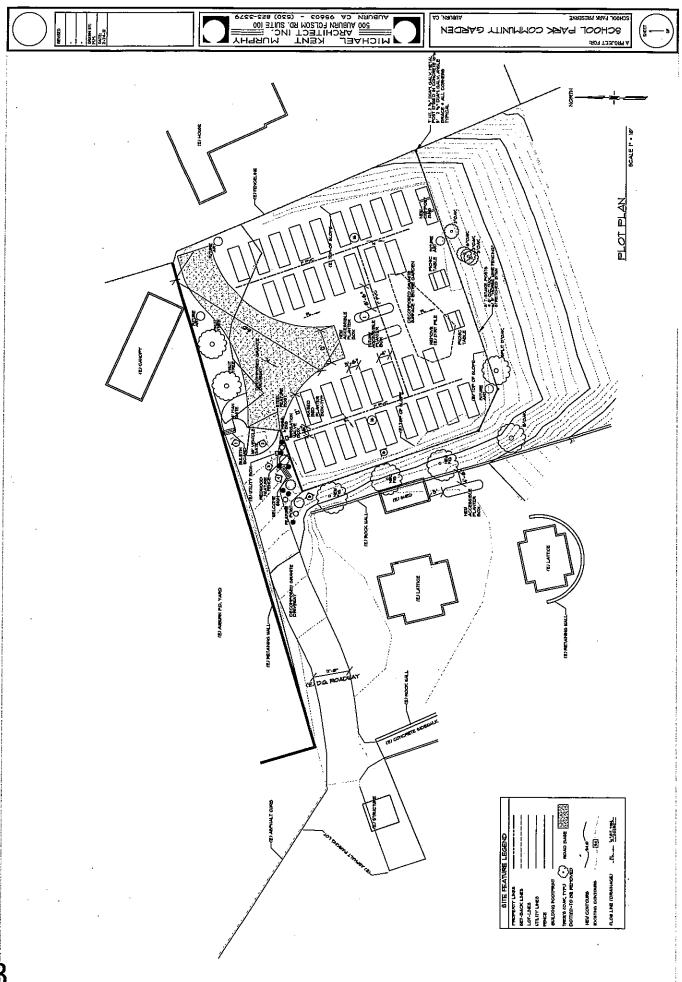
#### **ATTACHMENTS**

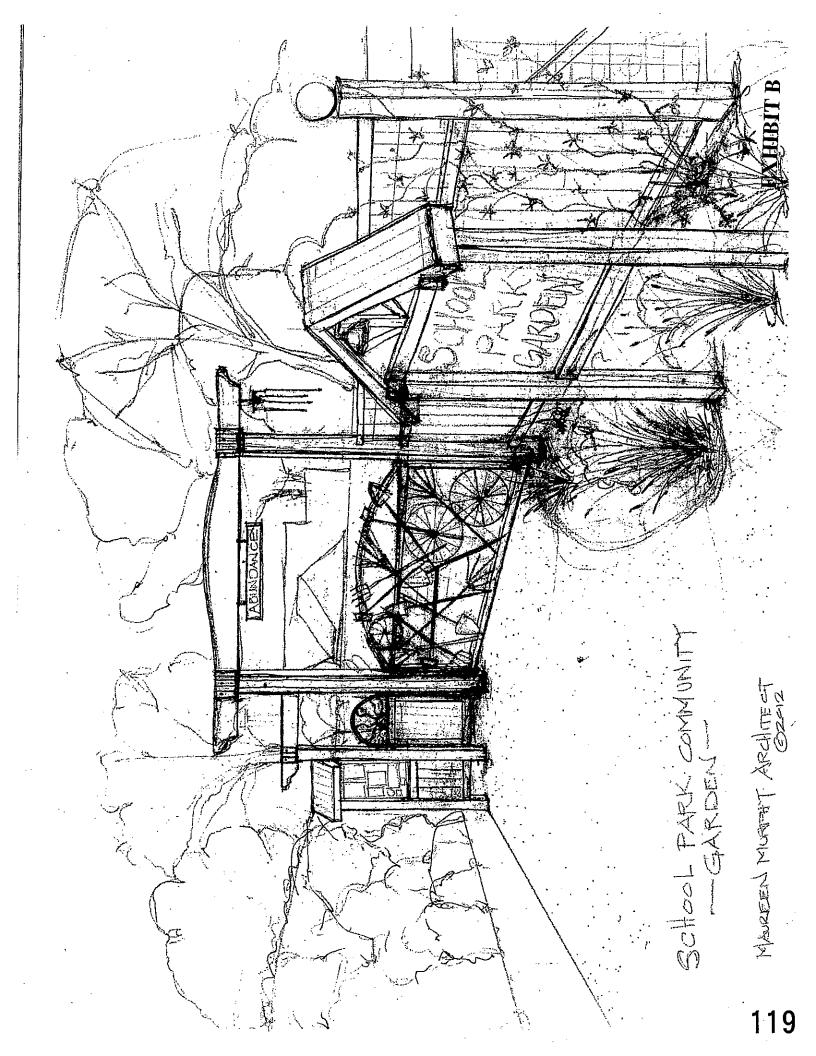
1. Location Map

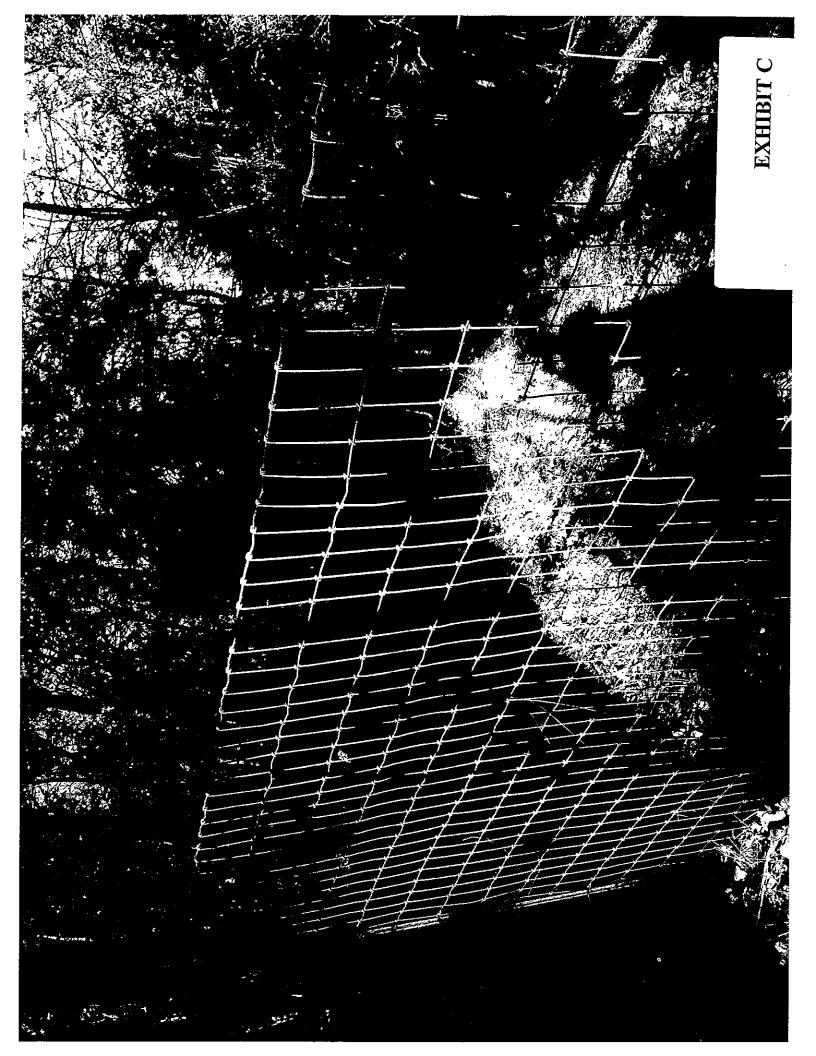
#### **EXHIBITS**

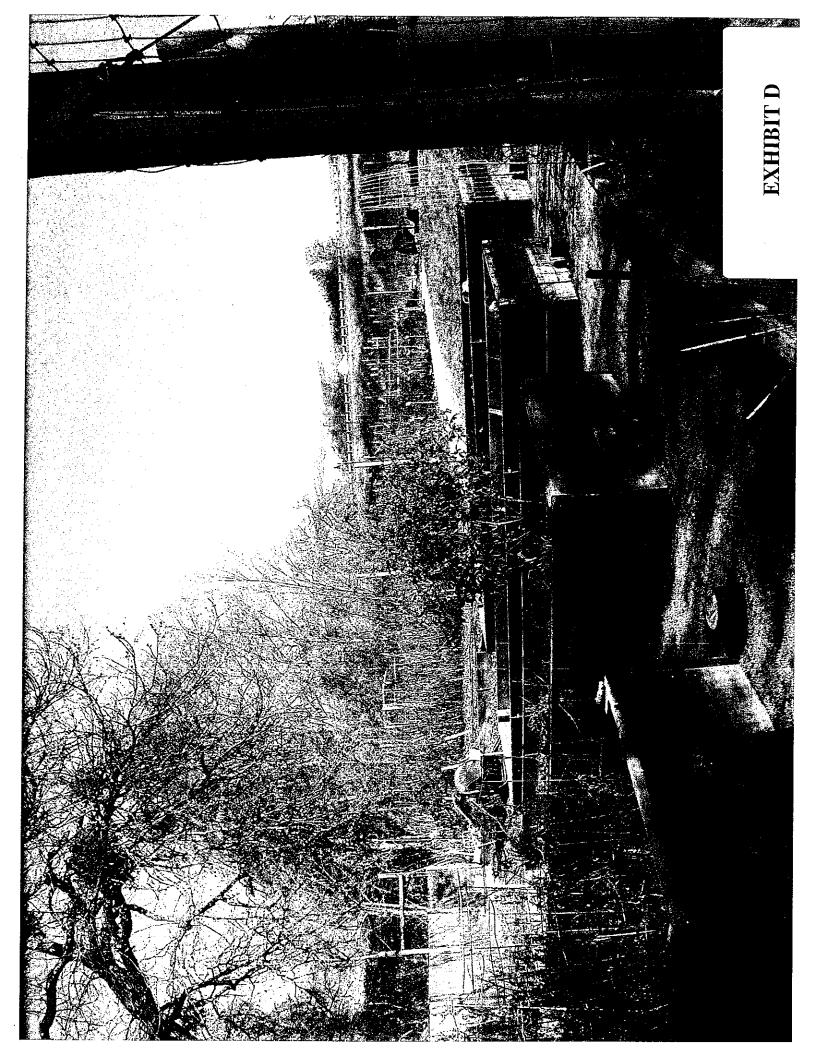
- A. Plot Plan.
- B. Entrance design.
- C. Perimeter fencing.
- D. Raised planter beds.
- E. Conditions of approval











# **EXHIBIT E**

# Conditions of Approval School Park Preserve Community Garden

- 1. Construction details will be required for the work shown on the entrance design (Exhibit B).
- 2. Prior to any work within the Community Garden, a representative of the School Park Community Garden Group shall provide advance notice to the City Manager, Public Works Director and Community Development Director.